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FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			NGUYEN, HAI V	
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			2142	

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/842,025

Applicant(s)

BU ET AL.

Examiner

Hai V. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 01/19/2005.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the communication received on 19 January 2005.
2. Claims 28-41 are new.
3. Claims 1-41 are presented for examination.

### *Response to Arguments*

4. Applicant's arguments filed 19 January 2005 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **MacNaughton** et al. U.S patent no. **5,796,393** in view of **Kumar** et al. U.S patent no. **6,278,993 B1**.
7. As to claim 1, MacNaughton discloses a method of retrieving electronic data from a communications system, the method comprising:  
  
establishing a connection to the communications system using a first account of a user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 1, line 50 - col. 2, line 33*);  
  
initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 1, line 50 - col. 2, line 33; col. 3, lines*

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35-61); and however, MacNaughton does not explicitly disclose automatically initiating over the same connection one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user. Therefore, the artisan would have been motivated to look into the related networking management art for potential methods and apparatus for implementing automatically initiating over the same connection one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user.

In the same filed of endeavor, Kumar discloses (*e.g., extending an on-line internet*) automatically initiating over the same connection one or more additional communication sessions (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional web sites like mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, mortgage.com, etc.*) associated with one or more additional accounts (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional accounts like mybank account, mystocks account, myshopping account, mortgage account, etc.*) of the user (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional web sites like mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, mortgage.com, etc.*). Kumar also discloses *when a user invokes a hyperlink from his personal list, software 35 uses the subscriber's personal information to provide an automatic and transparent log-in function for the subscriber while jumping the subscriber to the subject destination* (*Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26*).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the networking art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated Kumar teachings of and transparent log-in function for the subscriber (*Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26*) with the teachings of MacNaughton, for the purpose of *allowing a user to access a complete list*

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*of the user's usual cyberspace destinations, (Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26). MacNaughton also suggests that the Communities of the present invention may serve as a starting or focal point for Web navigating. The present invention provides a structure for a Web experience and helps users avoid being overwhelmed or overloaded by the complexity of the Web (MacNaughton, col. 4, lines 6-56).*

8. As to claim 2, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses accessing electronic data associated with the first account of the user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56*).

9. As to claim 3, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses accessing electronic data associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33*).

10. As to claim 4, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses accessing electronic data associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33*).

11. As to claim 5, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises retrieving email (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33*).

12. As to claim 6, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises sending e-mail (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33*).

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13. As to claim 7, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises downloading one or more files (*Kumar*, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 10, lines 41-51).

14. As to claim 8, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises retrieving messages posted on a message board (*MacNaughton*, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; *Kumar*, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33).

15. As to claim 9, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein accessing electronic data comprises posting messages to a message board (*MacNaughton*, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; *Kumar*, col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33),

16. As to claim 10, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses wherein the first account and the one or more additional accounts of the user comprise different screen names (*MacNaughton*, Abstract, col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; *Kumar*, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51).

17. As to claim 11, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating one or more additional communication sessions comprises automatically switching between the different screen names (*MacNaughton*, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; *Kumar*, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51).

18. As to claim 12, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses setting preferences for initiating the first communication session (*MacNaughton*, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5;

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*col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51).*

19. As to claim 13, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein setting preferences comprises scheduling a time to initiate the first communication session (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

20. As to claim 14, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses setting preferences for initiating the one or more additional communications sessions (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

21. As to claim 15, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein setting preferences comprises scheduling a time to automatically initiate the one or more: additional communications session (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

22. As to claim 16, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses setting different preferences for initiating the first communication session and for initiating the one or more additional communication sessions (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

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23. As to claim 17, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the first communication session is initiated automatically (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 3; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

24. As to claim 18, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses running the first communication session and the one or more additional communication sessions in parallel (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

25. As to claim 19, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the user comprises a single member of an online service (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

26. As to claim 20, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the user comprises multiple members of the online service (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).

27. As to claim 21, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the multiple members are related (*MacNaughton, Abstract, col. 2, line 50 – col. 3, line 5; col. 3, line 8 - col. 4, line 56; Kumar, Fig. 2; col. 4, line 14 – col. 5, line 12; col. 8, line 11 – col. 9, line 33; col. 9, line 59 - col. 10, line 51; col. 12, lines 9-44*).



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28. Claim 22 is corresponding computer readable medium claim of claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale as in claim 1.

29. As to claim 23, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the computer readable medium comprises a disc (*Kumar, Fig. 8, item 147*).

30. As to claim 24, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the computer readable medium comprises a client device (*Kumar, Fig. 8, item 147*).

31. As to claim 25, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the computer readable medium comprises a host device (*Kumar, Fig. 8, item 169*).

32. As to claim 26, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein the computer readable medium comprises a propagated signal (*Kumar, Fig. 8*).

33. Claim 27 is corresponding apparatus claim of claim 1; therefore, it is rejected under the same rationale as in claim 1.

34. As to claim 28, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system in response to a preference set by the user prior to initiation of the one or more additional communication sessions (*Kumar, a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5)*).

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35. As to claim 29, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions between the client system and the host system associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system (*Kumar, ISP 145 is provided within PSTN 143 and is adapted to perform Internet-access services as known in the art. ISP 145 comprises a modem bank 171, represented herein by a single modem icon, and an Internet connection server 169 adapted to connect subscribers to Internet 141. Connection server 169 is illustrated as having connection to Internet backbone 157 by an Internet access line 167. Access line 167 may be any suitable connection means known in the art for maintaining Internet connectivity for a plurality of users accessing Internet 141 through server 169 (col. 21, lines 1-10)).*

36. As to claim 30, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein authentication information associated with the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Kumar, col. 8, lines 11-27*).

37. As to claim 31, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein authentication information associated with each of the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Kumar, col. 8, lines 11-27*).

38. As to claim 32, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein authentication information associated with the first account and at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user may be used to enable access to the host system (*Kumar, col. 8, lines 11-27*).

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39. As to claim 33, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein establishing the connection between a client system and the host system and initiating a first communication session over the connection associated with the first account of the user occur automatically and without user manipulation (*Kumar, a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes*" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5).

40. As to claim 34, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system occurs automatically and without user manipulation (*Kumar, a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes*" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5).

41. As to claim 35, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, automatically synchronizing data (*Kumar, updating to the service*) related to the first account of the user or the one or more additional accounts of the user wherein, prior to synchronization, the data related to the first account of the user or the one or more additional accounts of the user was

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stored on only one of the client system or the host system (*Kumar, companies hosting WEB pages automatically provide their site logics and any logic updates to the service by virtue of an agreement between the service and the WEB hosts, col. 17, lines 2-5*).

42. As to claim 36, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses wherein synchronizing data comprises one or more of sending an e-mail message written using the client system when the client system was not connected to the host system, retrieving from the host system an unread e-mail message, posting a message to a newsgroup or message board that was written using the client system when the client system was not connected to the host system, and retrieving from the host system a message to a newsgroup or message board (*MacNaughton, col. 1, lines 36-49*).

43. As to claim 37, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically synchronizing data related to each of several accounts associated with the user (*col. 17, lines 2-5*).

44. As to claim 38 MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein: the host system is a network access service provider (*Kumar, Portal Service Provider*) that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, the first account of the user corresponds to a first e-mail account of the user provided by the host system, and one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to an additional e-mail account provided by the host system (*Kumar, col. 16, lines 10-25*).

45. As to claim 39, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein: the host system is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, the first account of the user

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corresponds to a first screen name for an instant messaging service provided by the host system, and one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to an additional screen name for the instant messaging service provided by the host system (*Kumar, col. 16, lines 10-25*).

46. As to claim 40, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses wherein:

the host system is a network access service provider that provides network access service to enable the user to access systems other than the host system, one of the first account of the user or at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user corresponds to a screen name for an instant messaging service provided by the host system, and other of the first account of the user or the at least one of the one or more additional accounts of the user correspond to an e-mail account provided by the host system (*Kumar, col. 16, lines 10-25*).

47. As to claim 41, MacNaughton-Kumar discloses, wherein automatically initiating comprises automatically initiating, over the same connection to the host system, at least one of the one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system when the user is not present at the client system (*Kumar, col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5*).

### **Response to Arguments**

48. Applicant's arguments filed 19 January 2005 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

49. In the remark, Applicant argued in substance that

Point (A), the prior art does not disclose, "automatically initiating over the same connection to the host system one or more additional communication sessions associated with one or more additional accounts of the user maintained by the host system" as in the amended claim 1.

As to point (A), Kumar discloses, "automatically initiating over the same connection to the host system (*the Password-All Internet Portal System hosted by ISP 15*), one or more additional communication sessions (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional web sites like mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, mortgage.com, etc.*) associated with one or more additional accounts (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional accounts like mybank account, mystocks account, myshopping account, mortgage account, etc.*) of the user (*Kumar, Fig. 2, additional web sites like mybank.com, mystocks.com, myshopping.com, mortgage.com, etc.*) maintained by the host system. Kumar also discloses *when a user invokes a hyperlink from his personal list, software 35 uses the subscriber's personal information to provide an automatic and transparent log-in function for the subscriber while jumping the subscriber to the subject destination (Kumar, col. 12, lines 9-26)*". Kumar also discloses, "a subscribing user operating an Internet-capable appliance, such as appliance 17, connects to Password-All Portal system 11 hosted by ISP 15, and thereby gains access to a personalized, interactive

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*WEB page, which in turn provides access to any one of a number of servers on Internet 13 such as servers 23, 25, and 27, without being required to enter additional passwords or codes" (col. 6, line 64 – col. 7, line 5). Kumar also discloses, "ISP 145 is provided within PSTN 143 and is adapted to perform Internet-access services as known in the art. ISP 145 comprises a modem bank 171, represented herein by a single modem icon, and an Internet connection server 169 adapted to connect subscribers to Internet 141. Connection server 169 is illustrated as having connection to Internet backbone 157 by an Internet access line 167. Access line 167 may be any suitable connection means known in the art for maintaining Internet connectivity for a plurality of users accessing Internet 141 through server 169 (col. 21, lines 1-10)".*

50. Further references of interest are cited on Form PTO-892, which is an attachment to this action.

### ***Conclusion***

51. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai V. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3901. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00-3:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hai V. Nguyen  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2142



**KAMINI SHAH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**